

**GANDOLFO LAW FIRM**

2202 Bellmore Avenue  
Bellmore, New York 11710  
(516) 221-0231

Attorneys for Defendant Francesco Vitali.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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NICOLE ZE'TONE.,

Plaintiff,

**08 Civ. 00495 (DC)**

-against-

**ANSWER OF  
FRANCESCO VITALI**

KRIZIA, S.p.A. and FRANCESCO VITALE,

Defendant.

-against-

S.T.C. Inc.,

Additional Defendant  
On Counterclaim.

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Defendant Francesco Vitali, sued herein as Francesco Vitale ("Vitali" or "Defendant"), by his attorneys, GANDOLFO LAW FIRM, as and for his Answer to the Complaint, avers as follows:

1. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the Complaint.
2. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Complaint.
3. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Complaint except admits that Plaintiff resides in the State of New York and was employed by Krizia from approximately February 2006 to June 2007.
4. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Complaint.

5. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Complaint except admits that Vitali is a citizen and resident of Italy.
6. Defendant refers the issue of subject matter jurisdiction to the Court and admits the factual allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Complaint.
7. Defendant refers the issue of subject matter jurisdiction to the Court and denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Complaint.
8. Defendant admits that Plaintiff resides in New York and that Plaintiff was employed by Krizia at its New York store and otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Complaint.
9. Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of the Complaint.
10. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the Complaint except admits that Plaintiff became employed by Krizia in or about February 2006.
11. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the Complaint except admits that after Plaintiff became manager of the New York store her duties included sales performance of the New York store, and other matters consistent with the policies and procedures of Krizia and the directions of the owner and senior management of Krizia.
12. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 12 of the Complaint.
13. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of the Complaint.
14. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 14 of the Complaint.
15. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 15 of the Complaint.

- 16. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 16 of the Complaint.
- 17. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 17 of the Complaint.
- 18. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 18 of the Complaint.
- 19. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 19 of the Complaint.
- 20. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 20 of the Complaint.
- 21. Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 21 of the Complaint.
- 22. Plaintiff demands trial by jury in paragraph 22 of the Complaint to which no response is required and Defendant reserves its rights with respect thereto.

**AS TO COUNT ONE**

- 23. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 23 of the Complaint, Defendant repeats and realleges each and every response to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 22 of the Complaint as if fully set forth here.
- 24. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the federal statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.
- 25. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of the Complaint.
- 26. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 26 of the Complaint.
- 27. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27 of the Complaint.
- 28. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 28 of the Complaint.

**AS TO COUNT TWO**

- 29. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of the Complaint, Defendant repeats and realleges each and every response to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 28 of the Complaint as if fully set forth here.

30. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the state statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.

31. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the state statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.

32. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of the Complaint and refers all questions of law to the Court.

33. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of the Complaint.

34. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 34 of the Complaint.

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### **AS TO COUNT THREE**

35. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 35 of the Complaint, Defendant repeats and realleges each and every response to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 of the Complaint as if fully set forth here.

36. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 36 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the municipal statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.

37. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 37 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the municipal statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.

38. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 38 of the Complaint, Defendant admits that the quoted language may be found in the municipal statute cited and refers all questions of law with respect thereto to the Court.

39. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 39 of the Complaint.

40. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 40 of the Complaint.

#### **AS TO COUNT FOUR**

41. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 41 of the Complaint, Defendant repeat and reallege each and every response to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 40 of the Complaint as if fully set forth here.

42. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 42 of the Complaint.

43. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of the Complaint.

44. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 44 of the Complaint.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

Defendant affirmatively states the following defenses without assuming the burden of proof on such defenses that would otherwise rest with Plaintiff.

##### **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

45. Plaintiff's claims are time barred under applicable law.

##### **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

46. Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim against either Defendant.

##### **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

47. The claims are barred, in whole or in part by the doctrines of estoppel and waiver.

##### **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

48. Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of unclean hands.

## **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

49. Defendant Vitali has no liability to Plaintiff under law since he was neither an employee of Krizia nor an employer of Plaintiff and is not a liable person under applicable law.

## **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

50. Subject to proof through discovery, Plaintiff has failed in whole or in part to mitigate her purported damage.

**WHEREFORE**, Francesco Vitali demands judgment dismissing the Complaint in its entirety, together with an award of costs, disbursements and such other and further relief to Defendant as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Bellmore, New York  
June 12, 2008

**GANDOLFO LAW FIRM**

By: /s/  
Thomas M. Gandolfo(TG1957)  
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Bellmore, New York 11710  
(516) 221-0231

**ALTIERI & ESPOSITO.**

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New York, New York 10018  
(212)-391-6602  
Rich Altieri, Esq.

**ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT  
FRANCESCO VITALI**

TO:

Adam Mitzner, Esq.  
PAVIA & HAROURT LLP  
600 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10022  
212-980-3500

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF**

Thomas M. Gandolfo, an attorney duly admitted to practice before the courts of the State of New York does hereby affirm under the penalty of perjury that he is over the age of 18 years, maintains an office at 2202 Bellmore Avenue, Bellmore, New York and that on June 12, 2008 he served the within Answer of Defendant Vitali on the following attorneys by enclosing a true copy thereof in a properly addressed and stamped envelope as follows:

Adam Mitzner, Esq.  
Pavia & Harcourt  
600 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

and by depositing it in a post office box maintained by the United States Postal Service within the State of New York.

Dated: June 12, 2008

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
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Thomas M. Gandolfo



